

FBI

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LD292039 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Hello comrades! 1986 -- what sort of year was it for relations between East and West? For our country this has been a year of the most energetic actions in the struggle for the triumph of the new mentality.

Reykjavik was the culmination of this process. Thanks to the boldness and innovation of the Soviet leadership, it was possible, as never before, to bring the positions of the USSR and the United States on the fundamental problems of limiting the arms race closer together. The wave of positive changes coming from Moscow has reached such a height that the attempts by Western countries after Reykjavik to roll it back have failed to nullify its results for the future.

Of no less significance, although for the moment, perhaps, not quite so much noticed abroad, are the efforts of the USSR to implement and upturn to a new level of relations between East and West in the economic and humanitarian spheres. This opens up the road to a better use by all countries of the achievements of the contemporary technological revolution and of the advantages of the international division of labor.

For the United States 1986 has been, it can be said, a year of missed opportunities. This is beginning to be understood more and more even in Washington; such is the main impression to come out of my recent conversation in the United States with representatives of the White House, the State Department, and Congress. Yes, they are looking back more and more often to Reykjavik, where the chance of a lifetime was missed because of the administration's uncompromising position on the SDI program. And unexpectedly, as often happens in politics, this rebounded in the bitter reckoning of Irangate.

What 1987 brings depends on many factors, including unpredictable factors. But one thing is obvious: It is dangerous to lose time. The further things go, the more time will work against the process of disarmament. It will be more and more difficult to try and reach agreement as the United States develops the space arms race and draws other countries into it. Many officials in Washington are currently saying that 1987 can provide a unique chance for an agreement on arms limitations. This is the only way, they contend, for the administration to achieve a major success in the final period of its stay in the White House, and at the same time deflect public opinion in the country from Irangate. Otherwise, effective talks will become possible no earlier than 1990, because the new president will need at least 2 years to enlist the support of Congress and draw up his policies in the world arena.

Regardless of these consideration, it remains an open question as to whether President Reagan will want or be able to embark on the necessary compromises to achieve agreement. In other words, the struggle goes on. The connections of these times become closer and closer, and deeper and deeper. The new mentality is becoming a more and more effective factor in the peoples' movement against the nuclear threat, for a civilized world and universal prosperity.

PRAVDA HIGHLIGHTS YEAR'S DISARMAMENT INITIATIVES

PM291631 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 December 1986 First Edition devotes all of its page 4 to a feature entitled "For a Nuclear-Free World, for Mankind's Survival. A Year of Historic Initiatives."

In an 900-word article entitled "An Irreversible Process," PRAVDA political Observer Yuriy Zhukov sees the 15 January 1986 announcement of the Soviet disarmament program by Gorbachev as "a most important contribution to the International Peace Year" and the start of "the great and truly irreversible process of the struggle for the creation of a nuclear-free world."

Having traced the progress of the "purposeful offensive" through the year, Zhukov concludes that "the USSR firmly holds the initiative in its hands, and growing numbers of people are becoming convinced that the problem of ensuring universal security can, and therefore must be resolved on the firm basis of the realistic and constructive ideas put forward by our leadership on 15 January 1986 and elaborated by the 27th CPSU Congress.

"Sooner or later, people in Washington must understand this!"

Writing about the Reykjavik meeting in a 700-word article under the headline "Ascent to the Summit," T. Kolesnichenko perceives it as having "marked a sharp turnabout in the movement toward a nuclear-free world and the liquidation of the arsenal of strategic offensive weapons," and says that "even bourgeois mass news media admit that it was only the daring, originality, and creative quest, rejecting a hackneyed approach toward talks, that were demonstrated by the Soviet side in Reykjavik which brought the USSR and the United States to the brink of making historic decisions on an unprecedented scale."

He goes on to criticize the U.S. Administration's approach to the talks, saying that it was "unable, or rather unwilling, to fully meet the Soviet proposals." Kolesnichenko concludes that the goal of "ridding the planet of the catastrophe that threatens it is still valid today" and that "the ascent to the summit of Reykjavik continues."

V. Shurygin, in a 700-word article entitled "New Thinking in Action," concentrates on Gorbachev's visit to India and the Delhi declaration signed during the visit. In his view, the role and importance of the results of the Soviet-Indian meeting "will grow not only because the common stance of the mightiest socialist state and the largest nonaligned country on fundamental problems of our time was expressed in Delhi, but primarily because it was there that principles and ideas laying the foundations of international relations in the future were formulated."

In another 700-word article, entitled "The Moratorium -- A Good Example by the USSR," N. Kurdyumov outlines the importance of the Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests, and sees the latest Soviet Government statement on the moratorium as offering the U.S. Administration "one more chance to take the path of sensible and responsible solutions."

A 450-word article by I. Melnikov, entitled "In All Continents," sums up the development of the "struggle for peace, for mankind's nuclear-free future," while a 450-word article by Hungarian publicist Istvan Zalai, under the headline "Strength Through Unity," praises the socialist community's actions in support of the Soviet initiatives.

The feature is completed by 400 words of excerpts from four readers' letters in praise of the Soviet initiatives, and a 600-word "Who Is For, Who Is Against" selection of 11 quotations on the subject of nuclear disarmament, including statements by Senator E. Kennedy, Secretary of Defense C. Weinberger, Senator G. Hart, and Vice President G. Bush.

NEW U.S. RADARS WOULD BE 'BREACH' OF ABM TREATY

LD281109 Moscow TASS in English 1103 GMT 28 Dec 86

["U.S. Moving Towards Violating ABM Treaty" -- TASS headline]

[Text] New York December 28 TASS -- The Reagan administration is moving towards violating the Soviet-U.S. treaty on the limitation of antiballistic missile systems.

THE NEW YORK TIMES quoted officials today as saying the United States was going to implement plans to build two new, large radars in Greenland and Britain. It also cited arms control experts as saying that would be a breach of the ABM treaty because it did not allow the United States to build new radars.

'DELHI SIX' URGE RESUMPTION OF ARMS TALKS

LD292152 Moscow TASS in English 2017 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] New Delhi December 29 TASS -- The leaders of Argentina, India, Mexico, Greece, Tanzania and Sweden made an appeal to the Soviet Union and the United States to take practical steps toward the elimination of nuclear arms and non-emplacment of armaments in outer space. Their joint statement circulated simultaneously in the six countries today says, specifically, that in the last days of the outgoing year 1986 they urge the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States for an early resumption next year of all-embracing talks with a view to preventing an arms race in outer space and terminating it on earth and, in the long run, eliminating nuclear weapons everywhere. This is what the entire international community expects.

The leaders of the Delhi Six urged the United States to review its decision to abandon the SALT-2 treaty. They noted that in the present complex situation it is necessary to follow the spirit and letter of agreements, above all those that have a direct bearing on questions of disarmament and arms limitation.

The leaders of the six countries emphasised that there is not justification for the holding of nuclear weapons tests by any country. The leaders of the six countries urged the United States again to revise its policy in the sphere of nuclear explosions, so as to establish a bilateral moratorium on nuclear testing. The year 1987 offers an opportunity to both countries to reach agreement measures, including substantial cuts in nuclear arsenals. The Soviet-U.S. meeting in Reykjavik showed that this can be achieved, the statement says.

Moratorium Could Continue

The situation concerning Afghanistan, the Soviet spokesman said, "calls for a political solution."

The latter, he explained, required "an end to armed aggression and outside interference in the internal affairs of Democratic Afghanistan".

"The governments of the United States and other countries involved in anti-Afghan activities should renounce military and any other aid to the counter-revolutionary gangs and attempts to bring political, economic and psychological pressure to bear on an independent country, namely the DRA," Gerasimov said.

Japanese Gravesite Visits

LD301224 Moscow TASS in English 1213 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 30 TASS -- Japanese nationals last July, August and September visited the graves of their dear and near ones in Soviet territory, a spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry said today.

Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the ministry's Information Department, told Soviet and foreign correspondents at a briefing at the ministry's press center that a group of Soviet citizens had also visited Russian graves in the Japanese cities of Nagasaki, Matsuyama and Izumiotsu this month. The graves, he explained, were of Russian seamen who had died during the Russo-Japanese war of 1904-05.

The visitors, Gerasimov said, had included representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church who had performed memorial rites. Japanese people, he said, had warmly welcomed the Soviet people who had come to Japan to visit the graves of their compatriots there. The visits, Gerasimov said, had been made possible after the Soviet side, guided by the interests of developing relations with Japan, had made an initiative last summer for an appropriate understanding with the Japanese side on visits to burial places in the territories of the two countries.

PRAVDA REVIEWS INTERNATIONAL EVENTS OF 1986

PM291444 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[Vitaliy Korionov "International Review"]

[Text] Only a few days remain until the New Year begins its march across the planet by the invisible steps of the time zones. The year we are leaving behind was declared International Peace Year by the will of the UN member states. In his New Year address to the Soviet people M.S. Gorbachev said: "We in the Soviet Union want this Peace Year to become a decade of peace and mankind to enter the 21st century in conditions of peace, trust, and cooperation." Throughout the year now drawing to its close, the CPSU and the Soviet state have persistently and purposefully followed this course. Our efforts, supported by the fraternal socialist countries and all the planet's peace-loving forces, were not in vain.

For the Sake of Mankind [subhead]

At the very beginning of the year, on 15 January, the whole planet heard the stirring words of the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in which the concrete program for mankind to enter the 21st century without nuclear weapons was formulated for the first time.

When Lenin's Decree on Peace, the 70th anniversary of which we will be marking next year, was first published, imperialist politicians declared it to be "fantastical" and "utopian." Anti-Sovietists in the West tried to apply the same method to the 15 January statement, but seeing what mighty support the Soviet program for a nuclear-free world received from all sensible people in the world, they were forced to bite their tongues. Even the bourgeois press organs began to acknowledge that it is the boldest, most realistic proposal ever put forward in history.

The struggle for the implementation of the program put forward in the 15 January statement for averting the danger of war became the central avenue of the Soviet Union's foreign policy for the years to come. The whole of 1986 was dominated by the implementation of this principle. We have reason to say: We did not work or struggle in vain.

Of course, the situation on the planet remains alarming and explosive. Nonetheless, we can now look at the situation in the world with greater optimism than at the beginning of 1986. The gulf between the adventurist circles of American imperialism and the rest of mankind is widening.

To bid farewell resolutely and irrevocably to a way of thinking and acting which was based, for centuries, on the acceptability of wars, to raise political thinking to a level which meets the demands of the nuclear missile age -- that is what the 27th CPSU Congress called on the states and people to do. This realistic formulation of the question is persistently forging a path in the political life of the modern world.

The process begun in Geneva could not be broken off. Moreover, in the light of Reykjavik the people saw for themselves: There is a real opportunity to move toward fundamentally new relations between states, and above all to deliver ourselves from nuclear catastrophe. But it is this which the military-industrial complex, which has the White House and the entire U.S. Administration firmly in its clutches, seeks to prevent. The finale of the Reykjavik meeting showed that the "Star Wars" program is still an instrument of obstruction in the hands of the Washington ruling clique.

But this outcome of the talks did not discourage the planet's peace-loving forces. On the contrary, it only strengthened the determination of peace-loving states and peoples to fight to thwart the nuclear militarists' plans.

The CPSU and the Soviet state pose the question bluntly: In present-day conditions the time factor is becoming truly critical. In order to bar the path of the nuclear tornado, constructive actions are needed, and not some time in the future, but this very day.

One such practical action was the Soviet moratorium on nuclear weapon tests. Silence has reigned at the Soviet nuclear testing ranges for more than 500 days. This silence is more eloquent than the explosions which thunder out at the American ranges.

Some of the bourgeois propaganda media are trying to interpret the Soviet Government statement published the other day in this way: "The Soviet moratorium has ended." Not true! The USSR has stated that it will resume tests only after the first nuclear explosion in the United States in the new year. This means that the Soviet moratorium has in effect been extended for another period, the fifth. Thus Washington is being given yet another chance to take the opportunity which exists and stop the explosions. The responsibility for the future course of events rests with Washington, and with it alone.

Peace will be neither universal nor lasting unless there is a normalization of the situation in that vast, explosive region, Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Here too the USSR's well-known initiatives are aimed at ensuring that nobody has the right to impose his will on other peoples or pierce the body of Asia with foreign military bases or his own nuclear devices. The declaration on a nuclear-free, nonviolent world signed by M.S. Gorbachev and R. Gandhi a month ago, on 27 November 1986, is a major political document of our time.

Breaking the resistance of imperialist reaction, the new way of political thinking -- nuclear and space age thinking -- is entering the practice of international relations. The fraternal socialist countries and communist and workers' parties are in the front ranks of this battle. The "Delhi Six" make a major contribution to the cause of normalizing the world situation. The voice of the participants in the Eighth Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Nonaligned Countries in Harare rang out authoritatively in 1986. This year was also marked by another forum which ended successfully, the Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe.

The American "No" [subhead]

Recent events have exposed with new force the true nature of the Washington administration's foreign policy course. The mask of demagogic rhetoric about the White House's "love of peace" has disintegrated, and the world can clearly see the real state of affairs. THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, for instance, notes: American foreign policy "needs a salvage operation," while in the opinion of THE BULLETIN OF ATOMIC SCIENTISTS, an influential journal in U.S. scientific circles, "the Reagan administration has begun a frontal assault on the entire arms control process."

The year 1986 was indeed a year of obstruction by Washington to any step aimed at nuclear disarmament, wherever such calls came from. "No" -- that is the only thing the peoples of the world hear from the White House. The year began with stubborn efforts by the extreme right in the United States to extinguish the "spirit of Geneva" and ended with the wrecking of the accords all but reached in Reykjavik, which American Senator C. Pell called a "black day for mankind." The year's finale was the notorious "Irangate," which crystallized not only the cynicism and hypocrisy of the U.S. ruling elite, but also its desire to use any opportunity to whip up the existing "hot spots" on the planet or create new seeds of military conflict.

There is justification for the fears of those circles in Latin America and in the United States itself which warn: The Washington administration, bogged down in the quagmire of the current scandal, could throw itself into seeking a way out in new adventures, in particular in the Nicaragua region. Washington is making feverish efforts to prevent a political solution to the Afghan problem. The scale of U.S. support for the cutthroats in Angola, as well as for the Pol Pot renegades in Cambodia, is widening.

All these are links in a single policy based on the senseless attempt to reverse the course of history. Poisoned by ideas of American "license," Washington politicians still entertain illusions that they will be able to carry out the crazy idea of social revanche on a worldwide scale, although the obvious result of this has been described by the American student of international problems L. Wieseltier as "the great American death throes of power." His appeal to "stop this sanctimonious blather about American purity" is perhaps timely. Indeed, the administration, while sanctimoniously declaring its loyalty to Reykjavik, marked the last days of this year with a sharp new buildup in militarist preparations.

The other side of the coin is the U.S. government's obstructionist position toward any UN resolution aimed at strengthening peace and international security. The voting statistics at the 41st UN General Assembly Session are characteristic. A vast and, in some cases, overwhelming majority of states voted at the session in favor of the adoption of resolutions calling for arms limitation and disarmament.

The unvarying American "no" struck a blow to the peoples' hopes. Only the United States voted against the resolution on the need for fruitful political dialogue with a view to improving the international situation. A total of 154 states voted for the resolution on preventing an arms race in outer space, and only the United States abstained. Only the American representative voted against the resolution on turning the South Atlantic into a zone of peace and cooperation and against the resolution on banning the development and production of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons. In the vote on such an important question of the present day as the creation of a comprehensive system of international peace and security, only the United States and France voted against.

Summing up the political results of the year, the American magazine NATION writes: "The Reagan administration's foreign policy has demonstrated its complete bankruptcy." There is probably nothing to add to this conclusion.

The Planet Demands [subhead]

International Peace Year showed that the peoples are not only concerned about the development of international events, but filled with determination to turn these events in the direction of achieving a nuclear-free world. The global antinuclear process has entered a new phase.

Both the governments of a growing number of countries and the people's public movements are pooling their efforts to erect barriers in the path of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. At the end of the year yet another nuclear-free zone was added to those which already exist in the Antarctic and Latin America -- in the southern part of the Pacific covering the vast expanses of that region.

The DPRK proposes that the Korean peninsula be declared a zone free from nuclear weapons. The movement for the implementation of the idea of creating a nuclear-free zone in Northern Europe is gathering momentum, and the movement to create a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans is hurrying to meet it. Yet another initiative has been put forward, as if to build a bridge between those ideas -- that of creating along the borders between the NATO and Warsaw Pact countries a corridor free from nuclear weapons, 150 km wide on each side, making a total of 300 km. As is known, this idea originates from the biggest parties in two states of different systems and political orientations -- the SED from the GDR and the SPD [Social Democratic Party of Germany] from the FRG. This is further evidence of the multiplying shoots of the new political thinking in the modern world.

The movement to declare nuclear-free cities, prefectures, and settlements is acquiring considerable scope in the United States, Japan, Canada, Britain, and other countries. In Japan, for instance, in the fall of this year more than 1,000 local organs of power, covering territory inhabited by more than one-half of the country's population, had adopted documents proclaiming the renunciation of nuclear weapons and calling for firm compliance with the three nuclear-free principles. In the United States more than 120 zones have declared themselves free from nuclear weapons, among them several major cities.

This year has seen a good "crop" of militant actions by the masses against the threat of nuclear war. Remember the "Great Peace March," in which some 1,000 American patriots marched 3,800 miles through the territory of 15 states of the country over 280 days, under the slogan "Get Rid of Nuclear Weapons!" Remember the 750,000-strong demonstration on the streets of Madrid, protesting Spain's participation in NATO. Remember the "Peace Caravan" on the roads of Greece and the rallies and marches involving many thousands of peace campaigners in Rome, Vancouver, Helsinki, Hasselbach....

The American side's position in Reykjavik made it particularly obvious to sensible people in the world that the path to real arms control is barred by the "Star Wars" program. Hence the intensifying desire, among scientists in various countries, not to take part in developing [razrabotki] space strike arms within the framework of SDI. By this fall more than 7,000 American scientists had signed a pledge never to participate directly or indirectly in work or research connected with the program. This makes a total of 57 percent of all scientific workers at the leading U.S. universities and institutes, including 15 Nobel Prize winners in physics and chemistry. In Japan more than 70 percent of members of the physics society have declared that they will turn down a proposal to take part in research under the SDI program, while some 10,000 scientists have signed a protest statement against Japan's involvement in the program. All this is a sign of the times.

Unfortunately, International Peace Year was not marked by true peace in every corner of the world. International tension has not become less acute. The arms race, which is exhausting the people, is even intensifying. The senseless war between Iran and Iraq continues. The heat of military conflicts can be felt from other "hot spots." All the same, Peace Year is not fading into oblivion. The forces of peace have done worthy work on its noble soil. They enter 1987 with new confidence: A nuclear-free world can be built, mankind can survive, and will survive!

'TOP PRIORITY' DISCUSSES U.S., NATO STRATEGY

LD271429 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 27 Dec 86

[From the "Top Priority" program]

[Excerpts] Hello, I am Pavel Kuznetsov and welcome to Top Priority, a regular panel discussion from the studios of Radio Moscow. Today we have our usual panel, Professors Radomir Bogdanov -- welcome back to our program -- and Sergey Plekhanov of the Moscow-based Institute for United States and Canada Studies. Today is our final discussion on Top Priority and therefore I'd like you...

[Bogdanov, interrupting] Final, you mean, I'm sorry, final for this year.

[Kuznetsov] Yes, that's what I said. Final program for this year and I'd like you to share your feelings about the past year. In my view a major lesson of 1986 is that it has demonstrated the ever-growing concern with the continued accumulation of nuclear weapons. Also this year, in my view again, will go down in the history books because we've tried to shape up our vision of a nonnuclear world and have made certain practical steps in this direction. [Passage omitted in which Kuznetsov recalls Gorbachev's announcement in January of a Soviet plan for a nonnuclear world by 2000 and in Reykjavik the two sides were close to reaching accord on doing away with strategic offensive arms in the next decade; Bogdanov says its not nuclear weapons but a peaceful policy that safeguards peace; Plekhanov says plan for a nonnuclear world by 2000 embraces other modern destructive weaponry.]

There is need to build a political structure with your potential adversary to make war unacceptable, says Plekhanov]

[Kuznetsov] I want to stop you right there because I'm going to play to you a segment of an ABC's News Nightline, anchored by Ted Koppel, and one of the guest speakers is Richard Perle, who is the assistant secretary of defense for international security policy, and Mr Perle is talking about conventional arms and also U.S. strategy, which is indeed NATO strategy, for initiating the use of nuclear arms in Europe. Let's listen to that tape now, and then I'd like you to comment on it.

[Begin recording] [Perle] In the event that we have no other way to repulse a massive Soviet invasion of Western Europe to consider the resort to nuclear weapons [sentence as received]. This doesn't mean that the use of nuclear weapons is inevitable, it doesn't mean that the use of nuclear weapons would be extensive and indeed we believe that the prospect that nuclear weapons might be used is sufficient to deter the Soviet Union from launching even a conventional attack in first (?instance).

[Koppel] Let me comment on it this way. Do you believe that the Soviet Union has superior conventional forces in Europe?

[Perle] I don't think there is any question about that. Soviet conventional forces vastly outnumber those of the NATO alliance in virtually every category.

[Koppel] Therefore, therefore, if the Soviet Union or the Warsaw Pact were to begin an assault against Western Europe coming in from East Germany into West Germany it's really only a matter of time, isn't it? If NATO forces did not use some kind of tactical nuclear weapons it would be only a matter of time if their conventional forces are superior before someone would call up the White House or the, or the Pentagon and say fellows we need help, we got to use it.

[Perle] (?But) we certainly can't rule out the possibility that Soviet conventional superiority could lead to a situation in which we would have to face a very difficult choice, either withdrawing from the continent of Europe or using one or more nuclear weapons in order to halt the Soviet advance. [end recording]

[Plekhanov] Now I think what Mr Perle said was very typical arguments and I'd like one of you two to comment on...

[Bogdanov, interrupting] It's very typical argument and first of all let me state, you know, that I hate even to discuss that idiotic scenario of Soviet Union invading the Western Europe. Let me begin with that. It's really idiotic scenario which has no ground.

[Plekhanov, interrupting] It's rank lunacy.

[Bogdanov] It's lunacy, it's [word indistinct] and you Pavel won't ask myself and Sergey to take part in that lunacy. OK, we respect you very much and we take...

[Kuznetsov, interrupting] You have already taken part and you have already commented on what you heard, anyway.

[Bogdanov] Number two, number two. You know Mr Perle looks like, you know, an uncle scathing [as heard] bad children behaving in a very bad way. You know in Russian tales there is such a personality. When you want to calm down your children you tell them: I will call this uncle and he will calm you down, you know.

[Plekhanov] Put you in a bag and carry you away or something.

[Bogdanov] Yes, (?I'll) carry you away and things like that. Mr Perle is just playing this role because I, to be frank with you, I don't see any, any common sense to discuss with him numbers; who is superior, who is not superior. If you are a real fair, you know, observer of the correlation of forces between Soviet Union and -- I mean conventional, we're talking about conventional forces -- you will see that is's a rough balance, we call it rough balance. What (?does it, what does it mean)? It means that in some respect we are a bit stronger than they are; in some respects they are a bit stronger than we are. But on the whole there is a rough parity. Of course you can discuss who is superior, who is not. We are not against that. But why Mr Perle, scaring his own citizens and Europeans, does not mention Soviet proposals, how to deal with that maybe legal, you know, (?worry) about the so-called Soviet superiority. We don't deny that. We say we are ready to sit down around the table and we have made a number of very important proposals how to deal with conventional problems.

[Kuzentsov] Prof Bogdanov, thank you for your comment. It was kind of emotional, but I respect your emotions and feelings about what we've just heard. But perhaps we could outline some areas in conventional weapons, where in the West they keep silent on their own advantages, and significant advantages at that.

[Plekhanov] Well, the one area is antitank weapons for instance. All the scenarios of a possible Soviet attack on Western Europe have to do with massive Soviet...

[Kuznetsov, interrupting] Tank assaults.

[Plekhanov] Movements, of tank assaults. Now the numbers of antitank weapons in NATO are really staggering. It's, the, I think it's about 100,000. Now it's estimated that in case they're used in battle at least 90 percent of them would be effective. Now the total number of tanks in the world is much lower than that. So NATO has in Europe more antitank weapons than it needed to eliminate all the tanks in the world. But really, I would like to reaffirm what Dr Bogdanov has been talking about. Discussing war scenarios in Europe lunacy. I wonder if Mr Perle has ever heard of Chernobyl. You know, Europe is filled with nuclear power stations. Any kind, any kind of serious fighting, conventional fighting, even on the level of second world war, would have such tremendous negative consequences in terms of radiation and what have you...

[Unidentified, interrupting] Starting a war in Europe, no matter what kind, conventional, or nuclear or chemical, is a scenario for the death of civilization in Europe, and maybe with consequences for the other continents as well. Now this is just plain realism; that's why we are proposing not only radical cuts in the number of conventional forces, but also changes in the strategies, such changes in strategies which would make offensive -- the possibility of offensive actions by either side, even impossible theoretically not just in practical sense. Also what we are proposing is have nuclear-free zones in the center of Europe, (?disjunctional) forces, such as moving forces back from, from the lines which divide them and deploying them in such a manner that would make a war (?improbable).

[Kuznetsov] Impossible. Well, I'd like to add a few words about what I've heard from Mr Perle and he, he said nothing about, for example, the number of, strength of, division, combat divisions on the western and eastern side, like, say for example, an American division has more men, or a West German division has more men than a Soviet division, for example, so when they manipulate the number of divisions they just omit this fact. Another thing is that they don't count into the equation the Armed Forces of France and Spain. They never mention the fact, which is a very significant fact in my view, that the population of NATO countries is more than what we have in the Warsaw Treaty countries. And then my final argument is that -- ah, both of you know about this current doctrine adopted by NATO which is called Air-Land Battle 2000 and it provides for strikes with conventional and nuclear weapons deep behind enemy lines. So my question is how an inferior side can have such war plans? I don't know...

[Plekhanov, interrupting] That's a good question, that's a good question.

[Kuznetsov] I've yet to hear an explanation from Mr Perle or whoever.

[Bogdanov] And we should. If you like, Pavel, we should invite him to come here and to join us, to have a discussion with him around this table. If he hears, if he hears (?now), that's an invitation for him.

[Kuznetsov] OK, we'll include that invitation in our working schedule for 1987, OK. Now, what I'm interested in and I fully agree with those in the West who say that we, what we terribly lack is trust and confidence. How do we build trust and confidence given this disparity of views?

[Bogdanov] You know, I still believe, you know, that this problem of confidence-building will be major problem for the next year as it was for this.

[Plekhanov, interrupting] Our moratorium, was it the...

[Bogdanov, interrupting] That's what, I was just about to touch that. You know, what we should do. That's my, you know, my opinion, what we should do. It's a tremendous task to build the confidence but we must and we must put into that small bricks, bigger bricks and maybe grand bricks, you know. We have started. Our side have started, has started that process of building trust: Our nuclear disarmament plan. We don't insist on the other side accept it immediately. We give you time to think it over, to criticize it, to have you own views but it's bricks, bricks of trust, you know. Nonnuclear world is the world of trust. Number two: We stopped testing nuclear weapons. It's another brick into that big mountain of trust, you know.

[Kuznetsov] In fact, in fact we are going to prolong it actually beyond the expiration date of 31 December. We're waiting for the first American blast in 1987 before we resume. In other words it's another prolongation of our moratorium, the fifth already. [passage omitted: Plekhanov refers to the successful completion of the Stockholm conference this year; Bogdanov cites joint efforts against terrorism as part of the package. The USSR has genuine desire to build mutual trust and confidence, a major task for 1987, says Bogdanov. Plekhanov hopes wisdom will prevail in 1987 and Bogdanov says let common sense prevail in dealing with all problems.]

[Kuznetsov] Thank you very much. Our time is up. I'm Pavel Kuznetsov signing off. Goodbye till next time on Top Priority a week from now on the same wavelength, and a happy New Year to all of you.

NO EXCHANGE OF TV ADDRESSES TO BE MADE WITH U.S.

LD301137 Moscow TASS in English 1125 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 30 TASS -- This year there will be no exchange of television addresses by the leaders of the USSR and of the USA, Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry's information Department, told a briefing here.

The United States has turned to us with the proposal on an exchange of new year television addresses by the leaders of our countries as was the case last year, he said. An exchange of television addresses is the content of the moment, which these addresses mirror. [sentence as received] To our regret, the departure of the U.S. Administration from the accords reached at Reykjavik, its abandonment of the quantitative limitations under the SALT-2 treaty and the refusal of the USA to join in the Soviet moratorium on nuclear blasts -- all that gives no ground for an optimistic note.

We believe that an exchange of television addresses is a good thing. But why instill in people illusions that everything is in order. Despite the good statements by the U.S. side, including the statement of the kind that in 1986 we have allegedly drawn closer on many issues, we, nevertheless, see no reason for an optimistic tone which will, naturally, come about if such an exchange of television addresses takes place.

We say: Let us again make efforts to remedy the situation so that we should have ground for optimism, the spokesman for the USSR Foreign Ministry said.

COMMENTARY DISCUSSES REAGAN RADIO ADDRESS

LD291807 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 29 Dec 86

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Sergey Rogulskiy; Boris Andrianov commentary]

[Text] [Rogulskiy] Western press agencies are reporting President Reagan's latest radio speech, paying particular attention to the point at which the master of the White House was obliged to touch on Irangate, the great political scandal which continues to stir the United States in connection with the secret U.S. arms deliveries to Iran. Over to commentator Boris Andrianov:

[Andrianov] Speaking on the radio, the head of the Washington Administration talked of Irangate in frankly subdued tones. According to UPI, President Reagan called the hitherto uprescedented scandal the controversy over Iran which in his own words, was distasteful to all Americans. Behind deliberately softened formulas like these the attempt by the chief of the White House to present the Iran affair as no more than a vexing accident is to be clearly felt. The administration, has, supposedly, slandered or slopped up, and certain individuals have exploited this to twist the administraton around their little fingers.

Such stories, however, collapse when they come into contact with the facts, and in particular with those linked to the acute exacerbation of the situaton in Chad, where events are taking a threatening turn.

In what it says, official Washington is an advocate of peace and stability in this African country, which has already been racked by internecine struggles for a protracted period. In what it does, however, the United States along with the other Western powers prefers to pour oil on the fire. A report has appeared in the foreign press to the effect that Washington has allocated \$15 million to direct military support of the pro-Western Habre regimes in Chad. Large consignments of U.S. weapons are being delivered to the regime. It is, moreover, appropriate to recall that, even in the spring of 1981, it was Chad that became the object of the first large-scale CIA secret operation under the Reagan administration, aimed at overthrowing the Transitional Government of National Unity in that country. Today, too, certain U.S. circles do not hide their intention of setting up a military and political bridgehead in Chad to exert pressure on Libya from the south. It is patently obvious what kind of consequences such action could have: they threaten to cause the conflict in Chad to become a significant source of international tension.

Irangate, like the U.S. intervention in Chad and like many similar actions on the part of Washington, thus emerges as dictated by purposeful calculations. Their object is to destabilize the situation in countries which do not want to submit to U.S. pressure, and which espouse an independent anti-imperialist policy.

Can it really be a question of an annoying accident over Irangate, as President Reagan hinted so transparently in his last speech of the year on U.S. radio? Absolutely not. It is not without reason that the French journal MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE has called the unleashing of wars and of so-called low-intensity conflicts in the peripheral theaters of the Third World the central element in U.S. policy and the cornerstone of their strategy. Those who have created such a policy have no qualms whatever about the choice of means. It is sufficient to recall the invasion of Grenada by the U.S. military, and the aggressive U.S. actions against Libya. Washington combines such outright militaristic actions with military, political and financial support to the antigovernment gangs in Afghanistan, Nicaragua, Angola, Mozambique and Cambodia; the training of hired killers and saboteurs who are sent to all ends of the earth goes hand in hand with the spreading of provocative lies concocted by the U.S. espionage department. The current Reagan administration long ago took possession of this entire arsenal, relying on a policy of neglobalism.

As for Irangate, it has shown the world's public this disreputable policy in all its unsightliness. That is why the chief of the White House has made this latest attempt to draw a veil over the nature of this scandal. Judging however by foreign media reaction, the attempt has failed.

[Rogulskiy] I will add to this that President Reagan has been obliged to admit that the Iran arms operations were a mistake, and that disagreement on the subject of these deliveries is still rife among his staff. The U.S. press notes that a new wave of dismissals and retirements of highly placed members of the U.S. Administration is expected. THE WASHINGTON POST believes that White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan and CIA Director William Casey will soon be gone. The American journalist points out that the scandal surrounding the secret arms deliveries to Iran and the transfer of the proceeds to the Nicaraguan contras is the greatest political crisis of President Reagan's term of office.

FALIN ATTACKS U.S. POLICIES OF 'HEGEMONY'

AU240926 East Berlin NEUE ZEIT in German 22 Dec 86 p 2

[Commentary by NOVOSTI correspondent Valentin Falin, Moscow: "The New Year, What Choice Will Be Made?"]

[Text] The following statement must be regarded as both an axiom and a constant: Security can only be universal and, as far as the relations between the USSR and the United States are concerned, only bilateral. Genuine equal security will be guaranteed not by as high a level of strategic equilibrium as possible but by the lowest possible level, one in which all systems and kinds of means of mass destruction become unnecessary. Hence strengthening peace and security is no longer a military task.

In the Soviet position in Reykjavik the "philosophy of shaping a secure peace in the nuclear and space age" prevailed. During this meeting the USSR tried to convince the United States of the need to combine word and deed. All went well until President Reagan tried to introduce hedges into the agreements, thinking hard how Washington's policy of strength could be combined with a peace without violence and how an official antinuclear space umbrella, known as SDI, could be stretched over a world free of nuclear weapons. He did this so long until he aroused distrust about his actual intentions because he avoided halting the nuclear weapons tests, even though he spoke out in favor of destroying all nuclear weapons in the coming 10 years.

It is in fact impossible to let the world be just a little bit nuclear. Nor can space be militarized just a little bit, as an experiment and so forth, without hoodwinking the other side at the same time. Such ploys spell nothing good.

As early as after Reykjavik the American leadership revealed why it had allowed the historic chance in the development of civilization to come to nothing: At heart the United States is not willing to place justice above strength, consent to being an equal among equal states, dissociate itself from the concept of neoglobalism and from directing the best interests of the world, or hegemony, or to accept the world community for what it is. Ronald Reagan proclaimed bluntly that his administration would continue the policy of strength and that it would not abandon the concept of "deterrence," which, as transpires from American Government documents, is nothing but a policy of "deliberate and gradual pressure" with the main emphasis resting on the "concentration of military superiority."

Guided by this theory the United States rejects peaceful coexistence and cooperation for the mutual benefit. From the U.S. angle a world without weapons and violence only harbors danger or the specter of danger. One can rest easy with an axe and a thick cudgel under the table. Everything else -- the references to the "insidiousness of the Russians," to alleged violations of treaties by the Soviet Union, all over the globe -- only constitutes a verbal supplement, an expression of annoyance about the fact that whereas U.S. imperialism is stronger than ever the scope for the application of this strength is becoming smaller every year.

How will things go on now? Never before has mankind had such opportunities to improve its life and never before has it been threatened by such dangers as today. There is a choice but how it will turn out depends first and foremost on whether the West can bring its ideas into harmony. This is the key to solving most of the problems that are making the life of the world community difficult today. This is where the answer to the central question of whether or not the chance for genuine disarmament in the interests of all becomes an accomplished fact lies.

HASHISH SEIZED IN KABUL; DUSHMANS IMPLICATED

LD292052 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 29 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] As has already been reported, a large haul of drugs has been seized at Kabul Airport.

[Begin video recording by correspondent M. Leshchinskiy, identified by caption] Another cache of drugs was found here yesterday in a hiding place under the roof of this house in the bustling center of Kabul. [video shows exterior of house] It was in the same packaging and bore the same label as that seized by Kabul customs officials. This house was leased by a merchant called (Khadyk Ullo). It has been discovered that he also brought a large haul of contraband into Kabul Airport. [video shows Leshchinskiy in a bare room, the door of which is guarded by two armed men in military uniform; the room contains several large metal trunks which can be seen to contain what looks like almonds; Leshchinskiy then points to another similar trunk, the bottom of which has been cut open and which can be seen to contain parcels in red cellophane wrapping]

Here are the metal trunks; there are 19 of them in all. They were taken to Kabul Airport to be sent via Delhi to London. Here you can see what looks like a load of almonds which the merchants were sending to be sold in Europe, but here is what was discovered by customs. Each trunk had a false bottom. Here, look. And this is where these bars of hashish were hidden away. I think that our viewers who saw the Vremya report on the seizure at the Moscow freight station of drugs in containers belonging to the U.S. firm Specific International will probably notice a lot of similarities with the color of the cellophane in which the hashish was packed and the size of the bars. Even their weight is very similar.

In all, 507 kg of hashish were seized in these 19 iron trunks by Kabul customs, and 17 people are currently being questioned. They are the organizers as well as the perpetrators of these criminal acts.

During the first stages of questioning the alleged merchant, (Khadyk Ullo), said that the drugs were brought into Afghanistan along secret routes from Pakistan from the Peshawar region, where, as is well known, many camps containing Afghan counterrevolutionaries are situated. The area also contains places where narcotic plants are grown and processed. His task in Kabul was to dispatch the cargo via Delhi to London. Furthermore, he stressed especially that he had received orders to dispatch the cargo only on Pan American aircraft.

What, then, are the aims pursued by the dushmans who perpetrate this criminal business and by their protectors who grow narcotics in Pakistan and try to dispatch them to Europe through Afghanistan? Well, of course their prime aim is to grow rich, to make themselves personally rich. Golbuddin Hekmatyar, one of the leaders of the counterrevolution, has lined his pockets with about \$15-20 million every year. There are 20 heroin processing centers on Pakistani territory that make up around 85 percent of the total amount of heroin used in Europe.

But in my opinion they also have other aims, political ones. It has already become clear, even during the preliminary investigation, what the Western special services are plotting. They are trying in this way to compromise the government of Democratic Afghanistan. But all these attempts are in vain. [end recording]

INDIA TO BENEFIT FROM OIL, GAS AGREEMENTS

LD201243 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] A long-term program for economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and India in the oil industry field for the period of up to the year 2000 was signed today in New Delhi. A number of contracts and agreements specifying ways to implement the accords achieved in the course of the visit to India by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, were also concluded.

Our correspondent, Boris Levchenko, reports from New Delhi that the documents signed stipulate a considerable broadening of Soviet-Indian cooperation in the field of oil and gas prospecting and extraction. In accordance with the general agreement between Tekhnoexport and the Indian Oil and Gas Commission, an essential broadening of work in oil prospecting at old and already developed deposits and in repairing wells is envisaged which, according to specialists, will make it possible to considerably increase oil extraction in India. A working program was also signed outlining the boundaries of the sites where prospecting and well repair work is to be conducted. Contracts for drilling total R235 million, almost twice the sum previously expended in nearly 30 years of Soviet-Indian cooperation in the field of oil and gas prospecting and extraction.

The Soviet-Indian agreements signed in New Delhi also envisage the continuation of cooperation in training qualified cadres for the Indian oil and gas industry. This field is very important for the country. As is known, India has set itself the task of achieving self-sufficiency in the field of oil prospecting and refining by the end of this century. The Soviet-Indian documents signed in New Delhi are making a considerable contribution to achieving the goals facing India in the field of oil prospecting, extracting, and refining.

Dinkov Signs Agreements

PM251453 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Documents Signed"]

[Text] Delhi, 24 Dec -- New potential for further developing the fruitful cooperation between the USSR and India in the sphere of the oil and gas industry is opened up by documents signed in the Indian capital by representatives of the two friendly countries.

The large-scale program that has been mapped out covers the period through the year 2000. It includes the joint conduct of researches in geophysics and geology, the implementation of drilling operations, and the surveying and exploitation of oil and gas deposits in the North Cambay and Cauvey River basins, the Himalayan foothills, and the state of West Bengal.

The program was signed by USSR Minister of the Petroleum Industry V.A. Dinkov and Indian Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas B. (Datt).

PM231245 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Dec 86 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Renewal Is the Keynote"]

[Text] For our country, the year drawing to a close is the year of the 27th CPSU Congress, which developed the strategy to speed up socioeconomic development and improve the Soviet people's well-being.

The supreme forums of many other socialist community countries' ruling parties were also held this year. It is deeply significant that the decisions they took are consonant with the innovative spirit and directives of the CPSU congress. Despite all the differences -- sometimes very substantial differences -- in the conditions in which the community countries' fraternal parties live and operate, they are inspired by common socialist ideals, are guided by the Marxist-Leninist teaching that is indivisible for them, and cooperate closely with one another on the basis of the principles of socialist internationalism.

The Sixth Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) Congress, recently concluded in Hanoi, proceeded in a businesslike, constructive atmosphere. The entire course of this congress and the decisions it took are distinguished by a spirit of realism and creativity, critical appraisal of what has been done, and quest for a fresh approach to the tasks of ensuring Socialist Vietnam's continued progress. Vietnamese Communists have every reason to call this forum of theirs a congress of restructuring and renewal.

The CPV has to operate under particularly difficult conditions. Even now the country is feeling the effects of the long period of colonialism, its bloody war for independence, and its no less difficult armed struggle against U.S. imperialist aggression. All these years of defending the motherland, its national unity, and socialist achievements have taken considerable strength. Following the behests of its leader, Ho Chi Minh, a consistent internationalist, the party of Vietnamese Communists has done a vast amount of creative work. Under its leadership, and relying on fraternal aid from the Soviet Union and other socialist community countries, the heroic, industrious Vietnamese people have begun building a new society. The foundations for modern industry are being laid, agricultural production is increasing, the state's defense potential is growing stronger, and science and culture are developing.

It is indicative, however, that, having duly appraised its achievements, the Sixth CPV Congress concentrated mainly on the tasks it still has to resolve. The Political Report and the report on the basic guidelines for social and economic development in 1986-1990 submitted by the CPV Central Committee to the congress, and also the speeches by delegates, devoted the most serious attention to disclosing and rectifying errors permitted in the past and to eliminating the phenomena of stagnation that have prevented the party and the country from making more rapid progress and that have had particularly serious consequences in the socioeconomic sphere. Boldly revealing shortcomings and looking truth in the face, the congress confirmed the CPV's maturity and strength, brought the ranks of Vietnamese Communists even closer, and strengthened the authority of both party and people. Approving the content, principles, and conclusions of the CPV Central Committee reports, the congress resolved that they must serve as guidelines when drawing up the 1986-1990 5-year plan for the country's socioeconomic development.

The CPV combines continuity with renewal in its activity. Many new people capable of formulating and resolving problems in accordance with the demands of the times were elected to leading party organs at the congress.

Nguyen Van Linh was elected general secretary of the CPV Central Committee. At the same time, the congress expressed its gratitude to party veterans who have made their own valuable contribution to building Socialist Vietnam.

The Sixth CPV Congress devoted a great deal of attention to SRV foreign policy issues, describing the strengthening of its fraternal ties with the Soviet Union as the cornerstone of this policy. Soviet-Vietnamese relations will continue to develop on the firm basis of the principles of socialist internationalism, which are clearly embodied in the treaty of friendship and cooperation between our countries. The fact that Soviet people feel deep satisfaction in the knowledge that our friendship today serves as a clear example of socialist internationalism in action came across convincingly at a meeting with activists from the Vietnamese-Soviet Friendship Society in Hanoi.

The congress expressed deep gratitude for the fraternal aid given to Vietnam by the Soviet Union and other socialist community states. It also voiced profound satisfaction with the fact that the fraternal countries' leaders have unanimously recognized the need to draw up a program to improve the effectiveness of CEMA countries' cooperation with and aid to Vietnam, Cuba, and Mongolia, while taking into account the specific features of each of these countries. For its part, Vietnam will strive to help improve the effectiveness of economic and scientific and technical cooperation within the CEMA framework.

The forum in Hanoi firmly stated that Vietnam will continue to strengthen its fraternal ties and fulfill its international duty with regard to its friendly neighbors in Indochina, Laos and Cambodia.

Socialist Vietnam fully supports the peace-loving foreign policy course of the CPSU and the Soviet state, which is aimed at reducing and eliminating by the year 2000 nuclear and other mass destruction weapons, ensuring the nonmilitarization of space, and creating a comprehensive international security system. The proposals put forward by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee in Vladivostok, which are aimed at turning the Asia-Pacific region into a zone of peace and security, were highly appraised from the congress rostrum. The congress warmly welcomed the Delhi declaration signed by M.S. Gorbachev and R. Gandhi as a document embodying the will and aspirations of all mankind struggling to create a secure, nonviolent world.

The CPV congress proved a convincing demonstration of the internationalist nature of the CPV, which works for the unity and cohesion of the international communist and workers movement, shows indissoluble solidarity with the liberation struggle of oppressed peoples, and contributes to the cause of social progress and the strengthening of peace throughout the world.

In their turn, representatives of communist and worker parties and other progressive organizations and movements who took part in the congress work expressed their solidarity with the CPV as it resolves the tasks facing it. They supported the efforts by Socialist Vietnam -- an active member of the Nonaligned Movement -- to turn Southeast Asia into a zone of peace and good-neighborliness.

The Sixth CPV Congress is an important landmark in Vietnam's sociopolitical life.

SRV ASSEMBLY SUPPORTS SUPREME SOVIET STATEMENT

LD292318 Moscow TASS in English 2301 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Hanoi December 29 TASS -- Vietnam wholly supports the message of the USSR Supreme Soviet to the parliaments and peoples of the world of November 19 and declares resolutely for the elimination of nuclear arms, for guaranteeing reliable security to all countries and peoples. This is said in a statement of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam adopted on the final day of the session of the Republic's supreme body of state authority.

The peaceful call of the USSR Supreme Soviet shows the Soviet Union's lofty responsibility for the destiny of humanity, its resolve to be tirelessly waging the struggle for the creation of an all-embracing system of international security, the statement says.

The Vietnamese parliamentarians condemn resolutely the United States striving to military supremacy, to the continuation of the arms race and its spread to space. The blocking by Washington of the arrangement about the possibility of the elimination of nuclear weapons, reached in Reykjavik, the abandonment of the SALT-2 treaty mean gross defiance to the cause of peace and international security, the document says.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE GREETES PHILIPPINE CP CONGRESS

LD292222 Moscow TASS in English 2151 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 30 TASS -- "The Philippine Communist Party, which bears high the banner of the defence of the interests of the working people of its country, consistently upholds the cause of peace and security in Asia and throughout the world, and which comes out against the aggressive policy of U.S. imperialism, for friendship and cooperation between the peoples of our two countries, is held in profound respect in the Soviet Union". This is said in the message of greetings of the CPSU Central Committee sent to the delegates to the Ninth Congress of the Philippine Communist Party.

The CPSU Central Committee stressed that the congress of the Philippine Communist Party is taking place in a complex international situation when the issue of war and peace has become the major problem of our time. "The CPSU holds that a solution to mankind's major problem of preserving peace on earth can be achieved now through the united efforts of all the peace forces which by their joint action can foil the ominous designs of the aggressive circles of imperialism".

"In the present-day international situation special responsibility for the destiny of peace and for the vital interests of the peoples rests with the communists. By its striving for the unity of left-wing, democratic and national-patriotic forces, the PCP makes a contribution to the consolidation of national independence and to the realization of the ideals of peace and social progress in accord with the aspirations of the Philippine people".

The CPSU Central Committee wishes the fraternal Philippine Communist Party further successes in its lofty efforts.

SHEVARDNADZE RECEIVES ROMANIAN ENVOY 26 DEC

PM291456 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Ambassadors Received"]

[Text] E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, received M. Ion, member of the RCP Central Committee and Romanian ambassador to the USSR, on 26 December.

In the course of the talk, which took place in a warm, friendly atmosphere, satisfaction was expressed at the progressive development of Soviet-Romanian relations and the dynamic growth in the volume of economic cooperation between the two countries. The decisive significance of the meetings between M.S. Gorbachev and N. Ceausescu for the further expansion and improvement of Soviet-Romanian ties in all spheres and the enrichment of the content was stressed.

The importance was noted of the all-round utilization of such progressive new forms of cooperation as production sharing, the creation of joint enterprises, and the establishment of direct ties between production associations and organizations, which will promote the fulfillment of the tasks set by the 27th CPSU Congress and the 13th RCP Congress for accelerating the two countries' socioeconomic development.

Mention was made of the great significance of the results of the Moscow working meeting of the leaders of the CEMA socialist countries' fraternal parties for improving and enhancing the quality of their cooperation and strengthening peace and international security.

In the course of an exchange of opinions on international questions it was stressed that in the struggle for a nuclear-free world, secure for everyone -- a real path to which is opened up by the initiatives put forward by the USSR at the Soviet-U.S. meeting at Reykjavik -- increasing significance is attached to cooperation among the socialist community countries and the stepping up of the efforts of all peace-loving, progressive forces.

OFFICIALS CONFER FRIENDSHIP ORDER ON GDR ENVOY

PM291454 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Dec 86 Second Edition p 2

["USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree on the Award of the Order of Friendship of the Peoples to Egon Winkelmann, GDR Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the USSR" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] For active work to strengthen friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the GDR, Egon Winkelmann, GDR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the USSR, is awarded the Order of Friendship of the Peoples.

A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Moscow, Kremlin, 19 December 1986

GORBACHEV RECEIVES PORTUGUESE CP LEADER

LD291822 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Today Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev met with Alvaro Cunhal, general secretary of the Portuguese Communist Party [PCP], who stopped over in Moscow. In greeting Alvaro Cunhal, Comrade Gorbachev stressed that Soviet Communists value the fraternal friendship and cooperation with the PCP based on the adherence of the CPSU and the PCP to common goals and ideals. A detailed exchange of opinions was held on major issues of the modern-day international situation, on ways of halting the arms race in light of the results at Reykjavik, and on strengthening security in Europe and in other regions of our planet. Issues of raising the collaboration of the international communist and workers movement at the present critical stage of its historic development were discussed, and the importance of the search for new forms of contact and cooperation between communists, in keeping with the spirit of the times, was noted. The unity of views and the complete mutual understanding of the CPSU and the PCP were confirmed on all issues discussed.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev spoke of the profound restructuring which is going on in Soviet society, of the positive shifts in the process of its all-round renovation that are gathering strength, and of the difficulties and problems standing in the way.

Alvaro Cunhal stated the constant support of Portuguese Communists for the work of the CPSU in implementing the course of the 27th congress and stressed that the change taking place in the USSR, the dynamic, peace-loving foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state, meet with a broad, interested response in Portugal. The PCP general secretary spoke of the party's struggle for the interests of the working people, for the national interests of the country, and for an active Portuguese policy in the interests of peace and disarmament.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and Alvaro Cunhal stressed the importance of raising the level of relations and the development of mutually beneficial cooperation between the Soviet Union and Portugal in the interests of strengthening peace and security in Europe.

The general secretaries of the CPSU and the PCP expressed the desire of both parties to continue to strengthen friendship and solidarity between Soviet and Portuguese Communists.

GORBACHEV ENVOYS GREET SWEDISH PEACE CAMPAIGNERS

LD292100 Moscow TASS in English 2046 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text Stockholm December 29 TASS -- Today representatives of the Embassy of the USSR in Sweden met with Ambassador Inga Tursson, a prominent Swedish public and political figure, former leader of the Swedish delegation at the Geneva-based U.N. Committee for Disarmament, and handed over to her a reply from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), to the participants in the "Great Peace Journey".

This large-scale anti-war activity was initiated by the women's organizations of the Swedish peace movement.

Inga Tursson chairs the board of the "Great Peace Journey".

The purpose of the peace journey was to attract the attention of the heads of state and government of various countries of all continents of the world to the need to take steps aimed at introducing full ban on the production, deployment, and use of all types of weapons of mass destruction, and first of all a ban on nuclear arms, at settling all international conflicts by peaceful means, and at using resources in the interests of progress and solving the urgent problems of mankind.

During the "Great Peace Journey" which began in Stockholm in May last year and had three stages, the peace campaigners requested the heads of state and government of many countries of all continents to express their points of view on these matters, and in most cases received replies to the requests.

Mikhail Gorbachev's reply to the participants in the "Great Peace Journey" says:

"Your intention to find out the readiness of the governments of all U.N. member nations to promote the cause of peace and peoples' security is an important and useful undertaking.

"Mankind has approached the line when the task of removing the nuclear danger, of curtailing the arms race, and of laying down the foundations of universal security has become utterly urgent.

"The elimination of all types of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear ones; a reduction in military activity everywhere; a settlement of the arising conflicts by peaceful means; the use of the latest advances in science and technology for the benefit of all the peoples in the world and the guarantee of the right of every people to manage their own resources in the name of meeting man's basic needs. All these are important elements of the building of a safe world".

"The Soviet Union proves in words and in deeds its profound interest in the solution of all these urgent problems and for the sake of this is ready to cooperate with all countries, political and social forces.

"By giving priority to values common to the whole of mankind, you reaffirm the vital power of the new thinking and new approach to the realities of the nuclear-missile age. It is possible to avert the nuclear threat and to guarantee mankind's survival only through the common efforts of the entire international community".

"I regard the Soviet leader's reply as convincing illustration of the support for the goals of our peace journey," Inga Tursson told a TASS correspondent.

"The peoples of all countries have full right to ask the government what they do for the observance of the U.N. Charter. Herein was one of the principal aims of the 'Great Peace Journey'. This is why it is greatly gratifying that Mikhail Gorbachev responded to our questions. It is highly positive that the Soviet political leadership strives to abide by the U.N. Charter and by the goals proclaimed in it," Inga Tursson pointed out.

DPA CITES PROVISIONAL DATA ON EMIGRATION TO FRG

LD222030 Hamburg DPA in German 1451 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow 22 Dec (DPA) -- From January this year up to 18 December, a total of 783 Soviet citizens of German ethnic origin were given an exit visa from the Soviet Union. Thus, judging by this provisional assessment, the emigration situation has indeed improved in comparison with 1985 (417), but, compared with previous years it still looks rather poor.

According to a statement from the German Embassy in Moscow today, there were large fluctuations in the monthly figures, but this should not be seen as being related to the political climate between Bonn and Moscow prevailing at the time.

Since 1976 there has been a continual fall in the number of ethnic Germans emigrating, of whom there are about 2 million in the Soviet Union. Since 1980, about 65,000 ethnic Germans have sought permission to emigrate. According to experts' views, the figure is said to be even considerably higher. In 1976, an average of 480 Soviet citizens emigrated each month to the FRG; in 1984 it was 72; this year, according to provisional figures, it was an average of 65.

AGREEMENT REACHED ON \$500 MILLION ITALIAN CREDIT

AU030901 Rome ANSA in English 0827 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] (ANSA) Moscow, December 2 -- The Soviet Vneshtorgbank [Foreign Trade Bank] and the Italian state-controlled medium term credit institution Mediocredito Centrale have initialed an accord providing the Soviets with a 500 million-dollar credit line, it was learned here Tuesday.

The agreement is expected to be ready for signing in January, apparently in Italy.

The understanding was worked out during a visit to the Soviet Union by Gian Piero Elia, the director general of the state agency which manages interest allocations.

The purpose of the credit line is to finance Italian exports to the Soviet Union to help correct the Italian deficit in bilateral trade. The credit would be for five or seven and-a-half years, according to the type of goods exported. Seven percent would be paid on five year loans and seven and-a-half on the longer loans.

BALTIC EXERCISES WITH SWEDEN, FINLAND BEGIN

LD101020 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 10 Dec 86

[Text] Joint exercises of Finland, Sweden and the Soviet Union in carrying out rescue operations at sea begin in the Baltic today. Taking part will be the relevant services from Helsinki, Turku, Stockholm, and Leningrad. The main aim of the exercises is to practice joint operations by the three countries and also to test systems for notification and warning.

PM241455 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talks Held"]

[Text] On 19 December V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received H. Ruiz, member of the Sandinista National Liberation Front National Leadership and minister for foreign cooperation of the Republic of Nicaragua, who is in the USSR in connection with a session of the Soviet-Nicaraguan Intergovernmental Commission on Economic, Trade, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation.

Questions of the state of Soviet-Nicaraguan trade and economic relations and prospects for their development were discussed in the talks, which were held in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Nicaraguan Energy Minister (E. Rappaccioli) and E. Castillo, Nicaraguan ambassador to the USSR, participated in the talks.

On 18 December talks were held between H. Ruiz and K.F. Katushev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. Questions of developing economic and technical cooperation between the USSR and Nicaragua were discussed.

TASS CITES NICARAGUAN MILITARY SUCCESSES

LD252229 Moscow TASS in English 1517 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] Managua December 25 TASS -- The successes scored by the Sandinist People's Army in fighting the gangs of Somocista mercenaries have forged substantially the gains by the Nicaraguan revolution, Juan Jose Ubeda, chief of the Home Affairs Department of the Sixth Military District, told the newspaper "BARRICADA".

This district, which unites the northern departments of Jinotega and Ntagalpa, is the site of key combat operations against formation of counter-revolutionaries who are funded and armed by the U.S. CIA.

The liberation of a number of hard-of-access highland areas where gangs of mercenaries operated became one of the main achievements of the year, Ubeda said. Thanks to the day-to-day painstaking work with residents of the liberated areas to inform them about the policy of the Sandinist National Liberation Front and the revolutionary government it became possible dramatically to cut the social base for support of the counter-revolution.

Many peasants who fell victim to Washington's anti-Sandinist slanderous campaign dissociated themselves from the bandits, Ubeda said.

Heavy defeats suffered by U.S. mercenaries brought about their further moral degradation. Many of them realized that their struggle against their own people was senseless and voluntarily laid down arms. About 1,000 bandits surrendered to the authorities in 1986.

Ubeda reported that militia and state security bodies discovered covert weapons and ammunition depots destined for carrying out acts of sabotage at industrial and civilian facilities and terrorist acts against civilians.

CPSU'S RAZUMOVSKIY TOURS PERM OBLAST 26-27 DEC

PM291501 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Dec 86 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Specificity and Effectiveness in Restructuring"]

[Text] G.P. Razumovskiy, who was in Perm 26-27 December, familiarized himself with the oblast party organization's work on the implementation of restructuring in economic and cultural building.

He visited the city's No. 1 Vocational and Technical School, where he was briefed in the organization of the tuition and education process and the production training of students. The secretary of the CPSU Central Committee had meetings with the labor collectives of the Ya.M. Sverdlov "Motorostroitel" Association, the V.I. Lenin Machine Building Plant, and the "Lobanskoye" Experimental Production Farm, and toured the oblast exhibition of national economic achievements and the diorama-memorial to the 1905 armed uprising of Perm workers.

The conversations with workers, specialists, and party and economic leaders centered on questions concerning the more effective utilization of the West Ural region's production and scientific potential, the further improvement of labor quality, and the accelerated development of the social and cultural spheres. Noting the serious shortcomings along these avenues of work, the secretary of the CPSU Central Committee emphasized that, under the new conditions of economic management, particularly great importance attaches to the purposeful work by party organizations to fulfill the tasks set in the CPSU Central Committee Politburo resolution on the report by the Perm Party Obkom -- to rapidly advance the oblast's national economy in terms of technical standards and efficiency and to ensure the unconditional fulfillment of the 5-year plan's targets for all indicators.

G.P. Razumovskiy visited Perm's new Parkovyy microrayon and city's trade union balneotherapy and mud bath spa center. It was noted in the course of meetings with Perm's working people that housing construction in the oblast center is still progressing at a slow pace, and that trade, public catering, and consumer and medical services for the population are underdeveloped. Particular attention was drawn to the importance of participation by all enterprises, regardless of their specific purpose or departmental subordination, in the development of the city's economy and services sphere and in raising the standard of the upkeep of the city.

A meeting was held with first secretaries of CPSU gorkoms and raykoms and the oblast's party aktiv. During his tour of the oblast, G.P. Razumovskiy was accompanied by B.V. Konoplev, first secretary of the Perm CPSU Obkom, and Oblispolkom Chairman V.A. Petrov.

BIRYUKOVA DISCUSSES REFORM IN BELORUSSIA

LD292245 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 29 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] From 25-29 December Comrade Biryukova was in Belorussia. She acquainted herself with the activities of the party organization of the republic concerning the fulfillment of the tasks put forward by the 27th CPSU Congress to saturate the market with various goods and services.

During the conversations held in labor collectives, prime attention was paid to the transfer of Belorussia's light industry enterprises to complete financial autonomy, self-financing, paying their way, and to the introduction of the State Acceptance Service.

The secretary of the CPSU Central Committee stressed that the party and soviet bodies are to introduce progressive forms of trade more vigorously and plan concrete measures securing fundamental upturns in the area of services within the next few years.

A meeting was held in the Central Committee of the Belorussian Communist Party between Comrade Biryukova and the party aktiv of the republic. Comrade Slyunkov and other comrades were present along with Comrade Biryukova during a visit to labor collectives.

SLYUNKOV DELIVERS REPORT TO MINSK AKTIV MEETING

LD251836 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1540 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] At the republican meeting of the party, administrative, trade union, and komsomol aktiv that took place in Minsk today, results of work in 1986 and the socialist pledges of workers in Belorussia's agro-industrial complex in worthily welcoming the 70th anniversary of the Great October were discussed.

A report was delivered by Slyunkov, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Belorussian Communist Party.

Outlining the targets for the acceleration of agricultural production, the participants in the meeting relied on the experience of frontranking farms, on the good results achieved in growing potatoes and root crops, and the strengthening of the fodder base of animal husbandry. The speakers noted that it is necessary to change attitudes toward flax growing, which has turned out among the laggards, and that it is time for the republic to progress to self-sufficiency in vegetables and fruit.

Ways of reaching 4,000-liter milk yields per cow by the end of the 5-year plan-period were carefully analyzed.

At the meeting it was stressed that economic successes are impossible without restructuring the organizing, mass-political work of party and other public organizations and that its forms and methods must assist the achievements of high aims.

CONTINUING REPORTAGE ON ANDREY SAKHAROV

Discusses Other Prisoners

AU241557 Paris AFP in English 1552 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Excerpts] Moscow, Dec 24 (AFP) -- Soviet dissident physicist Andrey Sakharov called Wednesday [24 December] for 1987 to be dedicated to "the release of prisoners of conscience" in the Soviet Union, but also paid tribute to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"I don't want a tragic event like the death in detention of my friend Anatoliy Marchenko, which coincided with my freedom, to happen again," he said in an interview with the Moscow correspondents of French television and radio.

He said that Mr. Marchenko, who died on December 8 at Tchistopol prison was "practically killed in prison." [passage omitted]

The Nobel Peace Prize winner also said in the interview that he had "a lot of respect for Mr. Gorbachev and his new policy of transparency."

"I think this new policy is very important and has been missing a lot from our country," he said. "The current changes (in the Soviet Union) are very important, but must be still more extensive in many areas."

Mr. Sakharov said he was ready to meet Mr. Gorbachev, but that the meeting depends on the attitude of the Soviet leader. "I never refuse any meeting," he said. The "father" of the Soviet atomic-bomb also confirmed his intention to resume his academic studies. He emphasised on his arrival Tuesday that he wanted to work again.

According to witness accounts he was warmly welcomed and applauded by colleagues Tuesday afternoon at the Soviet Institute of Energy Physics where he worked till being sent into internal exile in January 1980. "He looked happy to be back with us and we are delighted to have him among us again. His office is ready and we hope he will resume activities," one institute member told a Western reporter.

Mr. Sakharov told Agence France-Presse at his apartment Wednesday morning that he was still tired from his internal exile and the journey home and that he could not "say anything for the moment."

Smiling and apparently relaxed, Mr. Sakharov said he still did not have a telephone in his apartment, but that he hoped it would soon be reconnected. He said he would be in contact with journalists as soon as he could.

Wishes To Meet Gorbachev

LD241902 Paris Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] There will perhaps be an East-East summit in Moscow soon. Sakharov, the Soviet dissident who has returned to the Soviet capital after 7 years' exile in the prison town of Gorkiy, wants to meet the man who has him brought back, the master of the Kremlin, Gorbachev.

When he was received by Andrey Sakharov this morning in his modest two-room flat in Moscow, our correspondent Ulysse Gosset was struck by his desire for dialogue -- as if talking, just talking, had become the only really efficient weapon for the most famous dissident in the world. So, an important recording -- Sakharov's first interview, in which he speaks of Gorbachev, talking to Ulysse Gosset.

[Begin Sakharov recording in Russian with superimposed French translation] Well, that depends on Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. I would never refuse any meeting. This, of course, would be a good thing, since I could tell him in person what I have already told him on the telephone, what I think, and a lot of other things. And I could repeat to him yet again my thanks for the change in our destiny, in our fate, which has just taken place. I have great respect for Gorbachev. The new policy of glasnost, of openness, in our country today, seems to me to be very important. It has always been lacking in our country.

And the changes that are taking place at the moment seem to me to be very important. They certainly have to be pursued in several areas. Therefore, I would like, if it is possible and if I am asked, to meet Gorbachev. But that does not depend on me. [end recording]

After this emphatic tribute to Gorbachev, Andrey Sakharov deplored the death in detention of his friend Anatoliy Marchenko and hoped that 1987 will be the year of the release of prisoners of conscience.

ANSA Interview

AU271447 Rome ANSA in English 1019 GMT 27 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, December 27 [dateline as received] -- Recently released Soviet dissident Andrey Sakharov said that one of the reasons that he is returning to the Soviet Academy of Sciences is to work for nuclear safety to avoid incidents like April's Chernobyl nuclear reactor disaster, in an exclusive interview to ANSA.

The Soviet physicist added that he had at first considered connecting his return to scientific "patriotic" studies on a personal invitation from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, "to the liberation of the political prisoners", but then decided that he could be "more useful to the cause of human rights" if he worked at the same time for "the safe and peaceful use of atomic energy."

The "Father" of the Soviet hydrogen bomb then underlined that "one cannot do without nuclear energy" and the greatest problem in this field was making it safe to avoid the repetition of the Chernobyl incident. On April 26, an explosion at the Chernobyl reactor sent a radioactive cloud across Europe contaminating the environment and ruining agriculture. It was the worst nuclear disaster in the atomic age.

Sakharov told ANSA that the incident had caused him great "anguish" during his "internal exile" in the city of Gorkiy, 400 kilometers from the Soviet capital. The Nobel Peace Prize winner added that he had learned of the catastrophe through the Soviet press and "immediately sensed that the real truth was being hidden, a truth that has now been fully revealed."

In his ANSA interview, Sakharov repeated his opposition to the American "Strategic Defence Initiative" (SDI) also known as "Star Wars." The Soviet physicist recalled that in a 1983 "open letter", made before Washington decided to go ahead with the SDI program, he had underlined the danger of developing "Star Wars" program that could easily be turned from a defensive system to an offensive one.

In his "open letter" Sakharov had defined any "Star Wars" program as a "cosmic Maginot Line" and that it was wrong to think that who controls space also controls the earth.

For Sakharov, "the most important problem today is the distrust that keeps the United States and the Soviet Union from negotiating and reaching an agreement that would satisfy both sides. He added that when the U.S. realises that it cannot continue a SDI program, "the political climate will change and it will be easier to set new bases for reciprocal trust" that will facilitate a compromise solution to the issue of disarmament.

On the difference between the Kremlin administration of Leonid Brezhnev, who sent him into internal exile in 1980, and that of Gorbachev, Sakharov cited the increased "transparency" that exists in the Soviet Union today and that one can now read in the official press things for which people were sent to prison for in the past.

The dissident Soviet physicist then re-affirmed his "total commitment to the cause of human rights in the Soviet Union" and said that he would never stop seeking the release of those who are serving prison terms for "crimes of conscience." He added that he hoped the changes taking place in his nation were "only a beginning" and that they will lead to greater respect for civil rights.

Sakharov was particularly saddened by the death of dissident Anatoliy Marchenko, who died a week before Sakharov's release after a long hunger strike. The Nobel Prize winner said that he agreed with the wife of the late dissident, that he had "died in battle."

In his telephone conversation with Gorbachev, during which he was told he could return to Moscow, Sakharov said that he pointed out to the Kremlin leader the need to resolve the question of civil rights and asked for the release of political prisoners "for the good of the Soviet Union, peace and the difficult tasks he himself recognised after taking over the leadership of the party."

The interview concluded with Sakharov making an appeal for dissident mathematician Yuriy Shikhannovic and Sergey Khodorovic who for over 50 days have been subject to intense "psychological pressure."

Further AFP Interview

AU301128 Paris AFP in English 1118 GMT 30 Dec 86

[By Milan Daragovic]

[Text] Moscow, Dec 30 (AFP) -- The West should keep up pressure over human rights in the Soviet Union, dissident physicist Andrey Sakharov, who returned here a week ago after seven years internal exile, said in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The Nobel Peace Prize winner said he was "sceptical" about the usefulness of the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) and described as "monstrous" the April 26 nuclear disaster at Chernobyl in the Ukraine.

Mr. Sakharov said that the West should make human rights observance the main plank of its dealings with socialist countries and in particular with the Soviet Union.

The West had an interest in seeing that the Soviet Union amnestied political prisoners. An open society was "safer for its neighbours" he said.

There had to be firmness, he said, adding that it was not for him to say what methods should be used.

"I don't have the right, for example, to call for an economic boycott," he said.

He described the political climate inside the Soviet Union as "very contradictory." He said there was a move towards more openness, but concrete action was needed.

"The government's attitude towards prisoners of conscience will be significant in this respect," he said. "It will demonstrate whether there is a genuine process of democratisation or if it is just propaganda."

He defined "prisoners of conscience" as those "persecuted for their opinions and actions linked to their opinions, who do not resort to violence or incite others to violence".

Mr. Sakharov, often referred to as the "father" of the Soviet atomic bomb, said that he was "sceptical" about SDI. He said, "I don't like this programme. It is destructive and useless. It does nothing for the salvation of humanity."

He said that for the moment he saw no reason for alarm about SDI. "There is nothing to suggest that one can produce space-to-surface strike weapons more effective than existing surface-to surface missiles," he said.

He did not believe it would constitute an effective defense against nuclear missiles. It would always be beaten by offensive methods, but he said "work on SDI is already under way in numerous countries, particularly in the United States and probably also in the Soviet Union."

Mr. Sakharov said he thought SDI should not be allowed to become an obstacle to the resolution of other disarmament problems. "You should always separate problems and resolve them one by one. There is no danger in studying SDI separately."

He said the "rigid package" unveiled by the Soviet Union at the Reykjavik U.S.-Soviet summit was wrong. "It compromises chances of reaching agreement. We do not know what happened at Reykjavik but if it is true that SDI was the main obstacle, this question should be provisionally left to one side and a compromise sought on it later."

"The United States and the Soviet Union must reconcile their points of view, stop accusing one another and try to find solutions calmly and without haste," he said.

Mr. Sakharov described the Chernobyl accident as "monstrous" and said news about the extent of the catastrophe only reached him in exile in Gorkiy towards the end of May.

He said it was certain there had been "numerous errors" and some blame also lay with the unreliability of the type of nuclear reactor at Chernobyl.

He said the evacuation and information to the population had been carried out very belatedly. "A lot of people received strong doses of radiation. Children were only evacuated after they went to the scene to watch the fire and were left wearing contaminated clothes for several days."

"The worst of it is that many people will suffer from the effects of nuclear fallout. They are not ill yet but there is a likelihood that they will get cancer or that children will be born with genetic defects."

According to official Soviet figures 31 people died and 203 were injured in the disaster.

Mr. Sakharov said he had had no contact with the authorities since his return to Moscow and did not expect to have any.

Medvedev Interviewed

AU272035 Paris AFP in English 2030 GMT 27 Dec 86

[Text] Bonn, Dec 27 (AFP) — Andrey Sakharov's return to Moscow this week after nearly seven years in the closed city of Gorkiy marks "an ideological turning point" in the Soviet Union, dissident Soviet historian Roy Medvedev has been quoted as saying.

The West German weekly magazine DER SPIEGEL, in its issue to appear Monday, quoted Mr. Medvedev as saying Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev appeared to be trying an entirely new tack in dealing with dissidents.

"Until now, intellectuals have said they wouldn't believe in a liberalization until Sakharov was freed. If the government keeps up its policy of liberalization in art and literature, the main dissident currents will be brought into the official mainstream and therefore, be better controlled," he was quoted as saying.

Mr. Medvedev, 61, was expelled from the Soviet Communist Party in 1969, largely for his outspoken support of dissident positions.

He said another sign of significant change was the attention given in the Soviet press last week to unrest in the Asian republic of Kazakhstan, which previously might have gone uncovered.

Mr. Sakharov, a 65-year-old physicist, won the 1975 Nobel Peace Prize for his human rights work. His release from internal exile has been widely viewed as the most dramatic evidence that Mr. Gorbachev is seeking to ease international criticism of the Soviet Union's human rights record.

DISSIDENT PACIFIST FREED FROM LABOR CAMP

AU281833 Paris AFP in English 1821 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, Dec 28 (AFP) — Dissident Soviet pacifist Larissa Chukayeva has been freed from a two-year labour camp sentence imposed in July, fellow pacifist Aleksandr Rubchenko said Sunday.

Mr. Rubchenko said Mrs. Chukayeva returned to the capital at the end of the week. Both are members of the "Group for the Building of Confidence Between the Soviet Union and the United States."

Mr. Rubchenko denied an official statement that the group had disbanded. He said six people representing the group had approved a statement saying: "We consider that at the present time we have done all in our power, and future progress can be achieved only at a national level, and no longer through our isolated efforts."

Thirty other members of the group also said they would "continue their work and their defence of prisoners."

Mrs. Chukayeva's release follows hard on the heels of dissident physicist Andrey Sakharov's return to Moscow after seven years of internal exile in the Siberian city of Gorkiy.

LENINGRADSKIY RAYKOM FIRST SECRETARY DISMISSED

PM281503 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Dec 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "In the Moscow CPSU Gorkom"]

[Text] At its 15 December session the Moscow CPSU Gorkom Bureau examined the question of serious shortcomings in the style and methods of work of I.V. Shakhmanov, first secretary of the Leningradskiy CPSU Raykom.

It was noted that I.V. Shakhmanov failed to draw conclusions from criticism leveled repeatedly against him by the party gorkom and did not take measures to establish a highly demanding and exacting atmosphere in the activity of the raykom and the primary party organizations.

I.V. Shakhmanov committed breaches of the Leninist principles of the selection and placement of cadres, displayed unscrupulousness and a superficial approach, frequently ignored collegiality when solving cadre questions, and selected leaders on the basis of personal loyalty. He often replaced work on stepping up party influence on the activity of collectives by administrative orders and petty tutelage of soviet and economic leaders, which inflicted serious damage to the cause.

I.V. Shakhmanov's report to the Leningradskiy CPSU Raykom plenum was examined in the light of the shortcomings existing in his work. Addressing the plenum, he failed to self-critically expose the causes of serious omissions and errors. Despite the sharp criticism contained in a number of speeches and the suggestions made that he be relieved of his duties as first secretary of the CPSU raykom, the majority of raykom members failed to evaluate in a principled fashion the flawed style of the party leader's work. The CPSU raykom plenum limited itself to just warning Shakhmanov.

The Moscow CPSU Gorkom Bureau, having analyzed the materials of the recent Leningradskiy Party Raykom plenum and the numerous responses by Muscovites, and taking into account the reaction caused by material published in MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA, severely reprimanded I.V. Shakhmanov for major shortcomings in work with cadres and in his style and methods of leadership, and relieved him of his duties as first secretary of the Leningradskiy party raykom.

The party raykom bureau's attention was drawn to the conciliatory attitude toward shortcomings in the first secretary's work and the lack of exactingness and accountability toward leading cadres.

The Leningradskiy CPSU Raykom was assigned the task of resolutely eliminating manifestations of complacency and total license and to ensure an atmosphere which would promote broad development of criticism and self-criticism, publicity, and enhancement of party demandingness toward all Communists without exception, regardless of their length of service or the position they occupy.

Bedrin Appointed

PM281508 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Dec 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "CPSU Raykom Plenum"]

[Text] The Leningradskiy CPSU Raykom held a plenum which examined an organizational question.

Comrade I.V. Shakhmanov was relieved of his duties as first secretary and member of the Leningradskiy party raykom bureau.

N.P. Bedrin, previously working as deputy chairman of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom Party Control Commission, was elected first secretary and member of the CPSU raykom bureau.

KUYBYSHEVSKIY RAYKOM FIRST SECRETARY FIRED

PM281457 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 13 Dec 86 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Kuybyshevskiy CPSU Raykom Plenum"]

[Text] The Kuybyshevskiy CPSU Raykom held a plenum which examined an organizational question.

The plenum noted that Raykom First Secretary I.F. Komzolov and Raykom Secretaries A.F. Peshkov and T.A. Zuykova failed to properly organize the work of the raykom bureau and apparatus in fulfilling the 27th CPSU Congress decisions.

I.F. Komzolov committed breaches of the norms of party ethics and did not prevent the issue of a certificate for completed secondary education with inflated grades to his son. I.F. Komzolov was reprimanded and was relieved of his duties as first secretary and member of the CPSU raykom bureau.

A.F. Peshkov and T.A. Zuykova were strictly censured. The plenum acceded to T.A. Zuykova's request and relieved her of her duties as secretary and member of the CPSU raykom bureau.

Ye.A. Panteleyev, previously working as general director of the "Mosbytkhim" Production Association, was elected first secretary and member of the CPSU raykom bureau.

V.T. Smirnov, who previously worked as secretary of the Moscow science and production association's enterprises party committee, was elected secretary and member of the CPSU raykom bureau.

Yu.S. Karabasov, secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, took part in the plenum's work.

GORKIY KOMSOMOL OBKOM'S ROGOZHKIN REPLACED BY SUVOROV

PM281724 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 24 Dec 86 p 1

[Correspondent A. Shcherbo report under the rubric "Komsomol News"]

[Text] A plenum of the Gorkiy Komsomol Obkom was held yesterday. The plenum approved the obkom's report to the oblast Komsomol report and election conference, and examined an organizational question.

S. Rogozhkin was relieved of his duties as first secretary and member of the obkom bureau in connection with his confirmation as chief of the Komsomol Central Committee Cultural Section. G. Suvorov, who previously worked as second secretary of the Komsomol obkom, was elected first secretary. T. Sheshokina was elected second secretary, and M. Krokhonyatkin was elected secretary of the Komsomol obkom.

Yu.N. Khristoradnov, first secretary of the Gorkiy Obkom, addressed those assembled.

EMIGRES INTERVIEWED ON RETURN FROM U.S.

LD292227 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] A group of former Soviet citizens who, submitting to Western propaganda, left the USSR, today returned to our country from the United States. Our correspondent Viktor Shcherbakov chatted with some of the repatriates immediately after the arrival of the aircraft at Sheremetyevo Airport from New York.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified female] I am happy that I have returned to my homeland! I am happy! I kiss the ground! There are 65 of us, I am just the first to come out.

[Unidentified male] How many years were you there?

[Female] Nine years.

[Male] Nine years?

[Female] We suffered.

[Shcherbakov] Introduce yourself, please.

[Belchenko] Viktor (Belchenko).

[Shcherbakov] Viktor, were you in the United States for how long?

[Belchenko] I was there 9 years.

[Shcherbakov] And when you left did you have any idea that you might come back?

[Belchenko] No.

[Shcherbakov] And yet that's what happened?

[Belchenko] Yes. I am grateful to the government that I have had the chance to come back.

[Shcherbakov] Some settle, others don't.

[Belchenko] I (?did settle), but I wanted to get back to my native land to my relatives, my country.

[Shcherbakov] In other words, you simply realized that it was better to live...

[Belchenko] Better [words indistinct], yes.

[Shcherbakov] I understand. And did you ever think what you would do, perhaps you would return?

[Belchenko] I think I will take up my profession, the one I have been doing all my life.

[Shcherbakov] And what have you been doing?

[Belchenko] I was a gentlemen's tailor's cutter.

[Shcherbakov] Here in Moscow?

[Belchenko] No, in Kiev.

[Female] This is what I think: If the history of Russia is 2,000 years old, and we have experienced generation by generation the whole history of this land, we have been created out of it. Therefore, that is what is interesting to us, and not some other place -- that is just not interesting. It does not interest us, it is not dear to us.

[Shcherbakov] A purely basic question for you: Do you know where you will live [words indistinct]?

[Female] No, we will work.

[Male] We don't know yet.

[Female] We have always worked; we did not have the advantage of any funds in America. We have always earned our money, and generally speaking, we are healthy people, thank God, healthy. We will work.

DISTINGUISHED CHERNOBYL WORKERS RECEIVE AWARDS

LD241318 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] For courage and unselfish labor demonstrated during the liquidation of the accident at the Chernobyl AES and the elimination of its consequences, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has awarded orders and medals of the USSR to a large group of the most distinguished workers.

The title Hero of the Soviet Union has been given to Major General of Aviation (Antoshkin) and Colonel General Pikalev. The title Hero of Socialist Labor has been given to (Zavidey), brigade leader of drivers and operators of concrete pumps of the 605th construction directorate; (Vyko), head of the 605th construction directorate; (Samoylenko), deputy head of the shop of the Rostov AES, which is under construction; and (Usanov), deputy minister of medium engineering.

REFORM IN SALARY SYSTEM TO BE INTRODUCED

NC270956 Paris AFP in English 0943 GMT 27 Dec 86

[By Milan Dragovic]

[Text] Moscow, Dec 27 (AFP) — An estimated 75 million Soviet workers, engineers and white collar employees will have their salaries increased an average 30 per cent after January 1 in a partial reform of the Soviet wage structure, the first such move in three decades.

The stated aim of the reform is to make increases in industrial salary levels dependent on worker performance and on company profits in order "to improve the organization and efficiency of production."

Workers' salaries over the years have risen more rapidly than those of engineers, with the gap between the two narrowing considerably.

Soviet authorities want to eliminate such a trend, which they say discourages highly qualified specialists. An inquiry into the operation of state and collective farms in Siberia revealed that only 13 per cent of those working as heads of sections wanted a promotion while 70 per cent were willingly performing less prestigious tasks that were nevertheless better paid. The study found in effect that workers sometimes earned more than their superiors.

Under the reforms a salary scale will be established for each productive enterprise, with money saved through reductions in personnel or through output above planned objectives used to raise salaries.

An opinion poll, cited by KOMMUNIST, the Communist Party's theoretical journal, disclosed that only one third of industrial and agricultural workers felt they were giving their best effort. All those questioned said their wages were insufficient and pointed to cash bonuses as incentives likely to induce them to work harder.

Salaries of workers are thus to be increased from 20 to 25 per cent on average while those of engineers and technicians will go up 30 to 35 per cent. The new system will accord priority to professions having an impact on "scientific and technological progress" in steel, non-ferrous metals, mechanical construction and electronics.

Salaries of skilled workers in light industry and in the food industry will be brought closer to those of workers in processing sectors of heavy industry.

Encouraged skilled labour is the main objective of this mini-reform. While broadly keeping a salary scale based on six categories of workers, the authorities have decided to increase the distance between simple workers and higher cadres to the profit of the latter.

The salary range will go from 1 to 1.8 against the present 1 to 1.5, in a country where the average monthly salary is around 200 rubles (300 dollars at the official rate). For some workers in key sectors the scale could go from 1 to 2.3.

Specialists working in high technology sectors could see their salaries rise by 35 to 45 per cent.

In non-productive sectors, the state will continue to subsidize the increase in salaries. Salary rise of an average of 30 per cent are planned by 1990 for workers in public health, culture, specialised secondary school teaching and higher education, at present the most disadvantaged sectors. A young teacher or nurse only earns around 100 rubles (150 dollars) a month, five or six times less than a well-paid worker.

"Workshop" in Estonia

LD241808 Moscow TASS in English 1510 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] Tallinn December 24 TASS -- The whole of Estonia will become a test workshop next year as an experiment aimed to improve the pay system in the national economy will be staged on a republic-wide scale. The purpose of the experiment is to make the pay packet of every worker strictly dependent on labour productivity and quality.

Commenting on the experiment, Bruno Saul, Estonia's chairman of the Council of Ministers, told TASS that improvements in the pay system were long overdue. The growth of wages and salaries in Estonia, as virtually all over the USSR, often outpaced improvements in labour productivity. Moreover, wage levelling used to quench initiative and suppress the desire to work well.

Under new conditions, good workers can have their pay raised by one-third to one-half.

Those who do not want to work well will have to reconsider or look for other jobs. Improvements in labour productivity, Bruno Saul believes, can release surplus labour. Perhaps, some of the released workers will be unable to find jobs according to training in such a small republic as Estonia. Few people would like to leave their homes, however.

The Estonian Council of Ministers has ruled that all such people will be given an opportunity for retraining. The managers will have the right to pay them average wages from their latest places of occupation. The main goal, however, will be to find jobs for these people right at their places of work, to organize work in two shifts, for example. There will be no joblessness, Saul said in conclusion.

KUZNETSOV ATTENDS TRADE UNION CONFERENCE

LD231458 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Summary] A congress of the geological prospecting workers' trade union ended in Moscow today. Over the last 5-year period more than 650 deposits of minerals have been opened and handed over for industrial assimilation, and the mineral raw material base, capable of satisfying the needs of the national economy until the end of the century, has been strengthened. Taking part in the congress were Comrade Kozlovskiy, USSR minister of geology, and Comrade Kuznetsov, deputy head of a CPSU Central Committee Department.

PAPER NOTES EARLY DECEMBER WEATHER, CROP STATUS

PM291637 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 26 Dec 86 p 1

[Agrometeorologist O. Pisarenko report: "Weather and Crops"]

[Text] Temperatures fell in the European part of the USSR 15-17 December following the warm weather at the start of the 10-day period. Nighttime frost fell to 25-35 degrees below zero in regions to the north of the Tallinn-Kaluga-Saratov line, and to 36-45 degrees below zero in the Komi ASSR and the Urals Region. The minimum air temperature in Lithuania, Belorussia, the Ukraine, Moldavia, and the North Caucasus was 7-15 degrees below zero, and 16-24 degrees below zero in Latvia, Estonia, the southwest of the Central Region, the Central-Chernozem Region, and the southern Volga Region.

The rise in temperature observed toward the end of the 10-day period was accompanied by snowfalls. Almost the entire European territory of the USSR was covered by snow on 20 December. Only the North Caucasus and the south of Astrakhan Oblast are clear of snow. The deepest snow cover (16-35 centimeters, and 36-50 centimeters in places) was recorded in the Northern Region, the northeast of the Volga-Vyatka Region, the Volga Region (north of the Penza-Saratov line), and the Urals Region. The snow cover in the remaining part of the territory is no deeper than 15 centimeters. Winter grain crops everywhere were in a state of winter dormancy.

The cold weather resulted in adverse conditions for the wintering of fruit crops and berry shrubs in the Northern Region, most of the Northwest and Central Regions, the Volga-Vyatka and Urals Regions, the northern Volga Region, and the northeastern Central-Chernozem Region. The low temperatures could harm the fruit and leaf buds and the annual growth. The wintering of fruit crops in the Baltic republics, Belorussia, Moldavia, the Ukraine, and the North Caucasus is progressing satisfactorily.

The weather in West Siberia was cold. Nighttime frost fell to 28-35 degrees below zero, and to 36-43 degrees below zero in the north of Omsk and Tyumen Oblasts. The severe frost posed no danger to winter crops, since the fields are beneath a 17-30-centimeter-deep snow cover. The wintering of winter crops there is also progressing satisfactorily.

The weather in the Central Asian republics was cold during most of the 10-day period. The average air temperature everywhere was 2-7 degrees lower than normal, and in places 8-10 degrees below normal, while minimum temperatures fell to 12-22 degrees below zero, and to 8-11 degrees below zero in the extreme south of the territory. Temperatures rose everywhere toward the end of the 10-day period. But the maximum air temperature did not rise above 13 degrees. Winter grain crops were in a state of winter dormancy for most of the 10-day period. For fruit crops, the low temperatures in individual areas could cause partial damage to fruit buds.

TURKESTAN DISTRICT DEPUTY COMMANDER LARIN DIES

PM291911 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Dec 86 Second Edition p 4

[Obituary of A.V. Larin]

[Excerpt] Major General Artur Vasilyevich Larin, deputy commander of the Red Banner Turkestan Military District for combat training and chief of the Combat Training Directorate, has died after a serious illness in his 51st year. [passage omitted]

[Signed] A group of comrades

MILITARY PAPER REPORT ON GEN SEMENOV DEATH NOTED

AU281509 Paris AFP in English 1502 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, Dec 28 (AFP) -- Retired Soviet General Petr Semenov has died after a long illness, the RED STAR army daily reported here Sunday in an obituary signed by Defence Minister Marshal Sergey Sokolov and other senior officials. He was 85.

The paper did not specify when Gen. Semenov died.

Gen. Semenov was an official Soviet hero and had been awarded four "Order of Lenin" medals for military deeds during the civil war which followed the 1917 communist revolution and during World War II.

He later became head of a high military school and commander of artillery troops in the Carpathians.

LEADERS SIGN OBITUARY OF RETIRED GEN ANDRIANOV

PM251455 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Dec 86 Second Edition p 3

[Obituary of Yu.M. Andrianov]

[Excerpts] Col Gen, retired, Yuriy Mikhaylovich Andrianov has died aged 63 after a long and serious illness. [passage omitted]

Serving in the USSR Defense Ministry Main Missile and Artillery Directorate, he consistently held posts from senior section engineer to first deputy chief of the directorate. From 1984 to his retirement in 1986 Yu.M. Andrianov headed the USSR Defense Ministry Main Missile and Artillery Directorate. [passage omitted]

[Signed] S.L. Sokolov, S.F. Akhromeyev, V.G. Kulikov, P.G. Lushev, A.D. Lizichev, Ye.F. Ivanovskiy, V.M. Shabanov, I.N. Shkadov, M.D. Popkov, A.M. Mayorov, D.A. Grinkevich, P.I. Bazhenov, V.M. Milhalkin, S.Kh. Aganov, M.Ye. Penkin, Yu.M. Potapov, Yu.T. Chesnokov, P.N. Kuleshov, S.I. Varichenko, V.Ya. Lebedev, V.G. Kostev, A.B. Taskayev, S.T. Dashkov, A.N. Zakharov, V.F. Gromakov.